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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 03 NEW DELHI 002884

SIPDIS

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TAGS: PREL PTER IN PK INDO PAK

SUBJECT: INDO-PAK MINI-SUMMIT BURIES "GHOST OF AGRA"

REF: NEW DELHI 2866

Classified By: Charge Robert O. Blake, Jr., for Reasons 1.4 (B, D)

¶1. (C) Summary: India and Pakistan exorcised the ghost of the (failed) 2001 Agra Summit during President Musharraf's April 16-18 visit to N  
More Deliverables Than Originally Expected

¶2. (U) Exceeding the cautious expectations that the GOI set in the run-up to the summit (Reftel), PM Manmohan Singh and Pakistan President  
-- Increasing the frequency of the Srinagar-Muzaffarabad bus service (to an unannounced level) and adding additional trans-Kashmir routes to  
-- Expanding cross-LOC transit to include trade, pilgrimage, and cultural exchanges;  
-- Creating a mechanism to allow "divided families" (i.e. with members living on both sides of the LOC to meet (details are unclear, but a reference to meeting points along the LOC);  
-- Pushing for an "early start" on the proposed Lahore-Amritsar-Nankana Sahib bus links (particularly relevant to Sikhs who wish to visit a  
-- Committing to open the Khokhrapar-Munnabao rail link by January 1, 2006 (pushing back the expected date of completion from the original Oc  
-- Setting a January 1, 2006 deadline to open consulates-general in Mumbai and Karachi;  
-- Agreeing to continue the Composite Dialogue talks, with the foreign ministries to work out the schedule;  
-- Seeking to alleviate the situation of Indian and Pakistani prisoners who have served their sentences in each other's jails but have not ye  
-- "Immediately" convening "the existing institutions" to "expeditiously" resolve the Siachen Glacier and Sir Creek issues;  
-- Directing the two Petroleum Ministers to meet by May to discuss common issues including gas pipelines (Iran-Pakistan-India and Turkmenista  
-- Setting up a private sector Joint Business Council to intensify trade ties and reviving the official Joint Economic Commission, which last  
-- The PM also accepted in principle Musharraf's invitation to visit Pakistan. In addition, BJP Leader of the Opposition LK Advani accepted  
Musharraf also invited Congress Party President Sonia Gandhi.  
The details and timings are to be worked out by the respective foreign ministries.

¶3. (C) Notably absent from this list, and opening the PM to potential BJP criticism, was the omission of an explicit reaffirmation of earli  
Keeping Kashmir Quiet

¶4. (C) As expected, President Musharraf dwelled at some length on Kashmir, but the tone was by all accounts positive and absent of rancor.  
Consolidating the Personal Touch

¶5. (C) The two leaders exchanged numerous gifts, which highlighted the unusually strong personal connections between the PM and the Pakista  
Common Vocabulary Emerging

¶6. (C) Of particular interest was the GOI's and GOP's use of a similar vocabulary to describe their policy objectives for Kashmir. Echoing  
Saying (and Not Saying) the Right Things

¶7. (C) Both Musharraf and Singh displayed skill at making each other comfortable over the weekend with friendly comments and compliments:  
-- Musharraf reiterated his Reuters interview comment that the Delhi meeting was "180 degrees" from the failed 2001 Agra Summit;  
-- He telegraphed his commitment to the dialogue process before he arrived by declaring that "the period of conflict management is over, we  
-- He also reiterated his April 6 condemnation of attack against the Indian passengers for the inaugural Srinagar-Muzaffarabad bus trip and 1  
-- His references on TV to "Jammu and Kashmir," rather than the more vague "Kashmir," were viewed by some as an implicit acceptance that  
-- Singh appealed to Musharraf's personal side by remarking that he found the Pakistani President's mother "utterly charming" and "your sc

¶8. (C) As important to the atmospherics were the comments left unsaid. Accusations of Islamabad promoting cross-border terrorism and of hu  
Comment

¶9. (C) This interaction made no progress on a number of key issues (for example, the Baglihar Dam impasse and the final shape and identity  
BLAKE "